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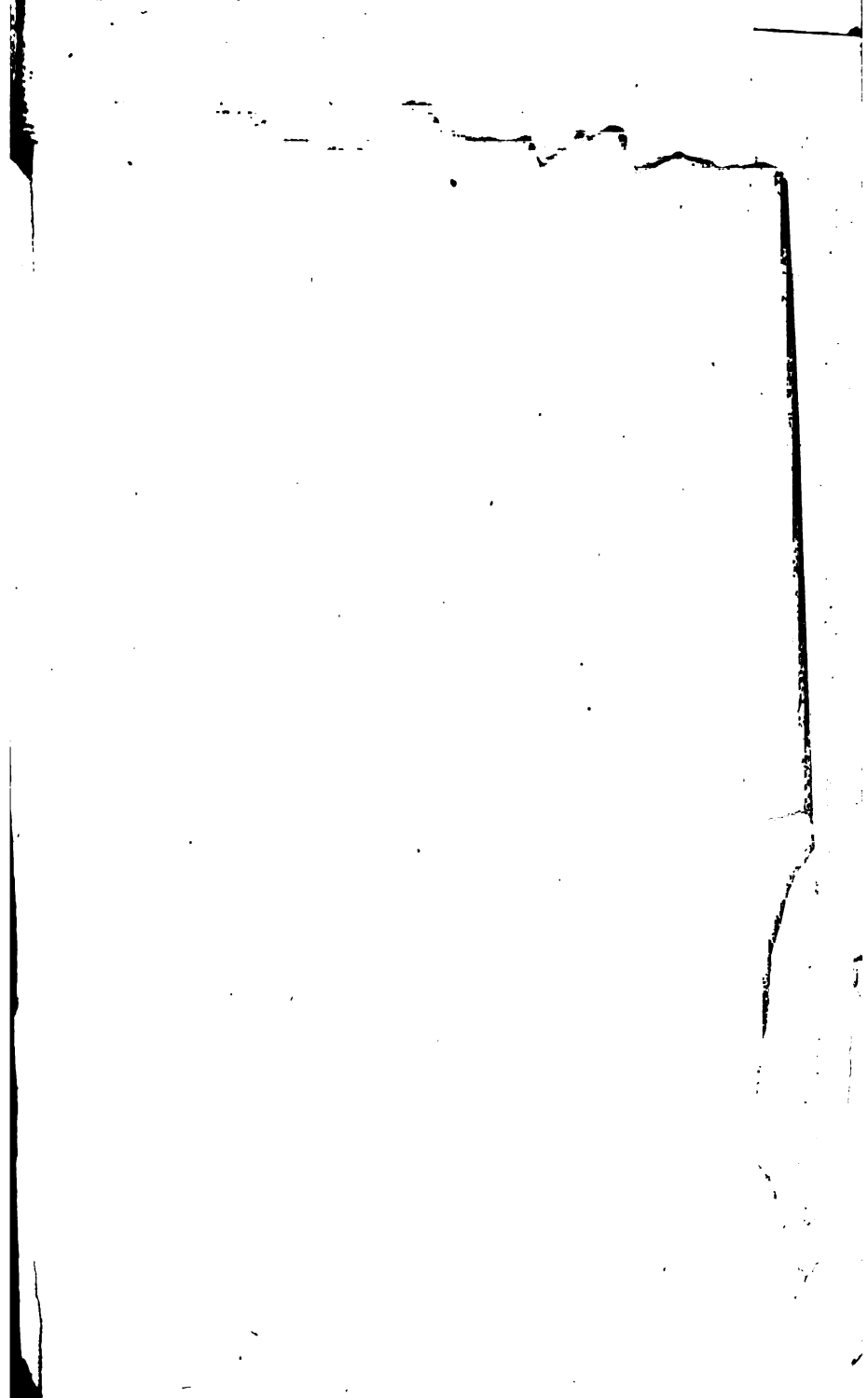
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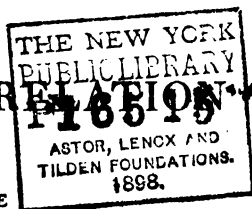
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IMPARTIAL RELATION



OF THE

MILITARY OPERATIONS

WHICH TOOK PLACE IN

IRELAND,

IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE LANDING OF
A BODY OF

FRENCH TROOPS,

Under General Humbert, in August, 1798.

BY AN OFFICER,

*Who served in the Corps, under the Command of 'His Excellency'
MARQUIS CORNWALLIS.*

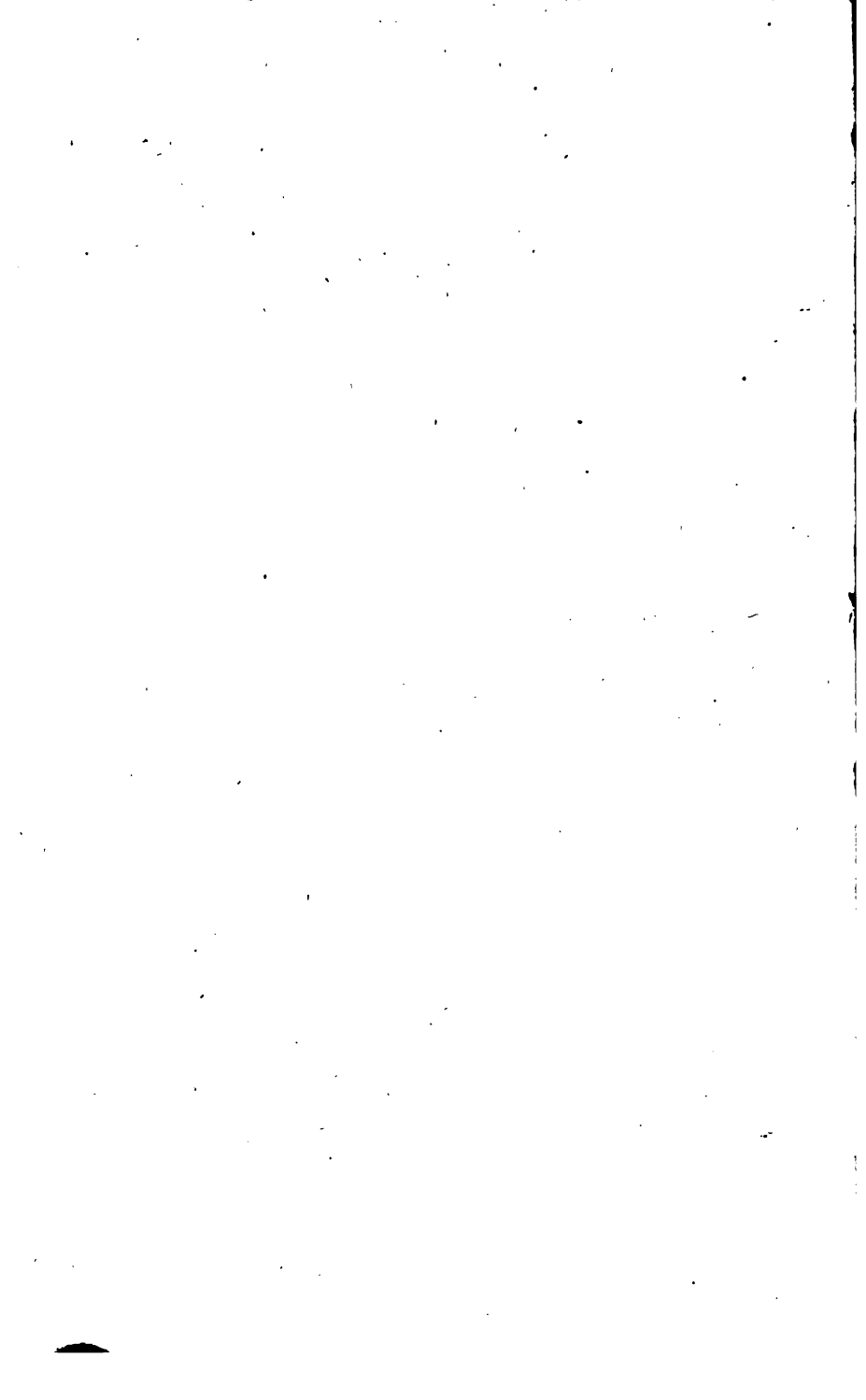
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ASTOR, LENOX AND
TILDEN FOUNDATIONS.
1898.

IMPARTIAL RELATION, &c.

HAVING observed that the measures pursued by Lord Cornwallis, during the attempt made by the small body of French troops, which landed in Ireland under General Humbert in August last, as well as the operations of the King's troops, have been in general misunderstood, and above all, that very gross misrepresentations have been made of the means which were employed to defeat the enemy's object, I am induced to lay before the public, a short statement of facts, which, as an officer employed at that period in Ireland, I can, from personal observation, bring forward as authentic; and to which I have been enabled to give a greater degree of correctness, from having been so fortunate as to procure, from the communication of official documents, much information, of which I could not otherwise have been in possession.

It may be necessary to make a few previous observations, on the state of defence the country was in at the time General Humbert landed at Killala.

Before Marquis Cornwallis arrived in Ireland, the system which had been pursued for the suppression of rebellion (which for a considerable time had spread without assuming a decided and collective form) added to the desire of affording protection to individual property, had necessarily occasioned a very great dispersion of the troops: hence considerable difficulties arose, when circumstances of a more serious nature required the assembling any where, a body of troops calculated to oppose decidedly the attempts of an enemy, who had collected in sufficient force to become as formidable to the general interests and security of the kingdom, as he had for some time proved to those of individuals; and of this, the time which elapsed before Lieutenant General Lake could collect a corps that was thought equal to the attack of the rebels at Vinegar Hill, and in other parts of the county of Wexford, appears a sufficient proof.

Much as the Lord Lieutenant could have wished immediately to make such a disposition of the troops, as should more effectually provide for the general defence of the kingdom against foreign attempts,

tempts, or for its security against any serious internal commotions, it was impossible, without much caution, and, from many considerations, without much delay, to carry into execution any arrangement for collecting, in the first instance the detachments of regiments which were most dispersed, and in the next for assembling and stationing, at particular points, corps which might be moved as circumstances should require, and might act with expedition and effect; independent of which, the state of disturbance in which the counties of Wexford, Wicklow, Kilkenny, Kildare, and parts of Dublin still continued, required a very large proportion of the force, and this consideration naturally increased the difficulty of forming and executing any arrangement, having a general object in view.

These difficulties had however been in great measure overcome, the arrangement was made and on the point of execution, when a report was received in Dublin, from Major General Hutchinson, of the landing of the enemy, on the 22d of August, in Killala Bay, on the western coast of Ireland, in which quarter of the kingdom the troops were at that time very thinly scattered; the province of Connaught having continued in a state of comparative quiet when rebellion was raging in other parts of Ireland.

The French landed near Killala, about six in the evening, from three frigates and a brig, to the number of 1260 rank and file, with a very considerable proportion of officers, and three pieces of cannon. A small party of the Leicester Fencible Infantry, under Lieutenant Sills of that regiment, and the yeomanry of the town of Killala, attempted to oppose their progress to the town, but were surrounded and taken prisoners, having three men killed. The Bishop of Killala, Dean Thompson, and some other clergymen, were also made prisoners by the French, who, upon entering the town, distributed handbills to the populace, declaring themselves friends of the people, and their deliverers from oppression.*

Upon receiving information of these events, the Tyrrawley Yeoman Cavalry assembled in Ballina, where they were joined on the morning of the 23d by some volunteers, and before night by several troops of yeoman cavalry, and a detachment of the carabineers, under Major Keir, who took the command in Ballina.—On the morning of the 24th, the French marched from Killala towards Ballina, but meeting with greater opposition than they probably expected, they retreated to Killala. In the evening, Major Keir having been reinforced by several

See Appendix, Note 1. p. 45.

corps

corps of yeomanry, advanced to within one mile and a half of Killala, but was obliged again to fall back, after an unsuccessful skirmish, in which the Rev. Mr. Fortescue, rector of Ballina, and two men of the carabineers, were wounded, the former mortally. In the retreat, Major Keir met Colonel Sir Thomas Chapman, who was advancing with three troops of the carabineers, and some infantry.—Sir Thomas Chapman having collected the troops, took post on an eminence near Moyne Abbey, whence he retreated, unmolested, at 12 o'clock at night, through Ballina to Foxford.

During all this time, the French had not been joined by any considerable number of the inhabitants of the county of Mayo; who indeed, except in the immediate neighbourhood of Killala, remained perfectly quiet; nor did they appear more disposed to rise in the other parts of the province of Connaught. The numbers of the French had been much exaggerated, few reports making them amount to less than 1800 men, with 12 or 15 pieces of cannon.—The frigates sailed from Killala Bay on the 24th. Brigadier General Taylor had on that day marched from Sligo, with about 250 men of the Leicester Fencibles, and about the same number of yeomanry, towards Ballina; but finding that the place had been occupied by the French

upon the retreat of the King's troops, he returned to Sligo,

Major General Hutchinson, who commanded in the province of Connaught, and who, with Major General French, was in the town of Galway, upon the first intelligence of the enemy's landing, had moved the Longford regiment of militia upon Gort, and upon receiving further accounts, determined upon ordering all the troops he could collect, to march towards the counties of Mayo and Sligo, which, however, from the slender force under his command, could not be done without leaving the counties of Leitrim and Roscommon open, and the bridges on the upper Shannon almost without protection. The troops with which he moved towards Castlebar, were the Kerry Militia, from Galway; a detachment of the Fraser Fencibles, from Tuam; the Kilkenny Militia, from Loughrea; the Longford, from Gort; a detachment of Lord Roden's Fencible Dragoons, and four six-pounders and a howitzer, from Athenry. These troops were afterwards joined by the skeleton of the 6th regiment (about 100 men) from Galway, which town remained garrisoned by a few corps of yeomanry only. The disposition of the country continued favourable, which was not however absolutely the case towards Carrick on Shannon, to
which

which place the city of Limerick regiment of militia were ordered, from Athlone, by Brigadier General Barnett.

In consequence of the circumstances and movements above stated, reports of which were received in Dublin on the 24th August, Lord Cornwallis immediately ordered Lieutenant General Lake to proceed to Galway, to take the command of the troops assembling in Connaught, meaning in person to collect the troops that could be marched from Leinster, at Athlone or Carrick on Shannon, as circumstances should point out.

The following disposition was made of the march of those troops, towards the Shannon, for occupying fixed stations and securing the communications, and with the further view to the preservation of peace in the disturbed counties of Dublin, Wicklow, Wexford, Meath, Kildare, and Louth.

FORCE *to move towards the SHANNON.*

1st Light Infantry	}	With M. General Moore,
2d ditto ditto		from Sallins, by Canal to
100th Regiment		Athlone.
Suffolk Fencibles		From Kilcullen to Athlone.
Downshire Militia		To collect on Birr to Ballinasloe.
Armagh	}	On their march to Birr, to proceed to Ballinasloe, the other
Four Companies		three companies to follow.
Reay Fencibles		From Kilcock to Longford.
Sutherland	}	From Drogheda and Dundalk
Fencibles		to Longford.
Antrim Militia		From Kilcullen to Athlone.
Bucks —	}	Flank Companies from Dublin to Longford.
Warwick —		
Louth Militia —		From Limerick to Galway.
5th Dragoon Guards		From Dublin to Athlone.
2d Foot —	}	With Major General Hunter
29th —		from Wexford to Kilkenny, thence to move upon the Shannon.

Amounting in the whole to about 7000 men.

REGIMENTS

REGIMENTS *to move to fixed Stations:*

Cork City Militia	}	To occupy the Canal, Cel-
Londonderry Militia		
Carlow Militia	—	Drogheda and Dundalk.
Inverness Fencibles		Trim and Kilcock.
Cork City Militia		Naas.
89th Regiment	{	Baltinglass and Hackets
		Town.
5th Dragoons	{	From Loughlins Town to
		Dublin.
7th Dragoon	{	To occupy Phillips Town,
Guards		Birr, &c.
4th Dragoon Guards	{	Maryborough, and to keep
		open the communication
		with Limerick.
9th Dragoons	{	Carlow and Kilkenny, and
		to keep open the commu-
		nication with Dublin.
Hompesch's Chasseurs	{	Clonmell, to keep open
		the communication to
		Cork.
		One Company from Lim-
		erick garrison, to be de-
		tached to Nenagh.
Cheshire Fencibles	{	Their march from Kilkenny
Glengary Fencibles		to be suspended.
Dublin County Militia		—From Ferns to Wexford.

Remain

*Remain in the Counties of Dublin, Wicklow, Wexford,
Meath, Kildare and Louth.*

Dublin	{ 5th Dragoons. Angus Fencibles. Bucks Militia. Warwick Militia. 68th Regiment. Fermanagh Militia.	N. B. The Yeomanry may be called 5000 effective men.
Garrison		

Loughlinstown — Antient British Fencibles.

Wicklow, &c. — King's County Militia.

Arklow — Sligo Militia.

Rathdrum — Leitrim Militia.

Gorey — Durham Fencibles.

Wexford — Dublin County Militia.

Enniscorthy — South Cork Militia.

Newtown Barry Cavan ditto.

Ros — 1 Battalion Foot Guards.

Baltinglass — 89th Regiment.

Kilcock and Trim Inverness Fencibles.

Naas	{ Waterford Militia, Dumfries Fencibles, Dublin City Militia.
Kilcullen	

Dundalk and	{ Carlow Militia, Dumfries Fencible Cavalry.
Drogheda	

Canal Line to	{ Cork City Militia, London- derry Militia.
Monastereven	

Arrangement, 24th August, 1798.

Independent

Independent of the above disposition, Major General Nugent was directed to assemble a corps on the frontier of his district (the Northern) towards Sligo.

Lieutenant Colonel Maxwell, of the 23d Dragoons, who commanded at Enniskillen, had, on the first alarm, marched from thence to Sligo, with the whole of his garrison, consisting of about 500 men, of which, upwards of one-half Yeomanry, and two howitzers and two six pounders; and the small garrison of Ballyshannon had also marched to Sligo. Brigadier General Champagné, upon his arrival at Enniskillen, from Armagh, sent orders to Major Packenham, quartered at Granard, with two troops of the 23d Dragoons, to proceed to Carrick on Shannon, and collected at Enniskillen, a garrison of about 600 Yeoman Cavalry and Infantry. He further directed a garrison of Yeomanry to be stationed at Ballyshannon, and the Yeomanry of the baronies of his district, bordering on the sea, to collect at Donegall. Lord Portarlington, who commanded the Queen's County regiment, at Strabane and Armagh, was also to assemble the yeoman corps in his neighbourhood, so as to enable him to send either to Enniskillen or Ballyshannon, a reinforcement of 600 men.

Major

Major General Nugent had ordered Colonel Lord William Bentinck from Armagh, to proceed with the proportion of the Breadalbane Fencibles, quartered there and at Monaghan, as well as a part of the 24th Dragoons, to Enniskillen. The 3d light battalion to proceed from Blaris Hutts to Lurgan, and the North Lowland Fencibles from Dungannon to Augher and Clogher, there to remain. The whole of the Yeomanry corps in the Northern District were ordered to hold themselves in readiness to take the field ; but, unless absolutely necessary, it was not thought expedient to remove them from agricultural and other occupations, which required their immediate attention.

Major General Hutchinson arrived at Castlebar on the 25th, he found the country through which he passed, as well as the neighbourhood of that place, in a state of perfect tranquility. It however, was reported, that the French who remained at Killala and Ballina had been joined by 1800 men ; and Major General Hutchinson having very soon reason to think, that notwithstanding the first appearance of things, the inhabitants began to favour the enemy's project, and were rising in considerable numbers, he was induced to give up the plan he had at first formed of attacking them, and judged it adviseable to write to Lord Cornwallis for further assistance. Brigadier General Taylor moved from
Sligo

Sligo towards Castlebar, on the 25th, with about 1200 men, chiefly Yeomanry.

Lord Cornwallis arrived at Phillipstown on the 26th with the 100th Regiment, the 1st and 2d battalions of light infantry, and the flank companies of the Bucks and Warwick Militia, and on the 27th proceeded to Kilbeggan, the troops having made a progress of forty four Irish miles (about sixty English) in two days.

In the mean time reports were received from Lieutenant General Dundas, who commanded in the county of Kildare, that there were grounds to apprehend that a general insurrection was intended in that county, that notices had been circulated by the disaffected, calling upon the people to rise, and that many of the inhabitants had abandoned their habitations; in consequence of which, he had been under the necessity of detaining part of the reinforcements ordered to Connaught.

Very early in the morning of the 28th, Major Hardy, Assistant Quarter Master General, arrived at Kilbeggan, with a report from Lieutenant General Lake, of the result of an attack made by the French, on the morning of the 27th, on Major General Hutchinson's corps at Castlebar, which Lieutenant General Lake had joined the night before.

before. Upon receiving intelligence that the enemy were advancing towards Castlebar, the troops were ordered to occupy a position in front, which covered that town, as well as the greater part of the county of Mayo, and was well calculated for keeping up the communication with Brigadier General Taylor, who had advanced to Foxford, and whose corps had been reinforced by the Kerry Militia and the Leicester Fencibles, which had been detached from Castlebar. The enemy's attack was made about seven in the morning.

The French, with about 1500 rebels, advanced in regular order upon the King's troops, who waited their approach in the position they occupied. The artillery, under Captain Shortall, was admirably served and made a visible impression, inasmuch that the enemy's advance was actually checked, and they began to disperse; at this critical moment our troops, as if seized with a sudden panic and without any apparent reason, gave way; and notwithstanding every effort made by Lieutenant General Lake, Major Generals Hutchinson and Trench, and the very meritorious exertions of all their officers, they could not be rallied, but retired in confusion through Castlebar towards Hollymount. Lord Roden's Fencible Dragoons, however, shewed great gallantry upon this as they had upon all other occasions; they protected the retreat
of

of the infantry and even recovered a six-pounder which the French had pushed forward through Castlebar. The skeleton of the Sixth Regiment, under Major Macbean also behaved with spirit in the action.

The following is the return of killed, wounded, and missing, and of guns lost upon this unfortunate occasion. Of the soldiers of the Longford and Kilkenny Militia returned missing, the greater part had deserted to the enemy. The loss of the French in killed and wounded (and resulting almost entirely from the effect of the artillery) was afterwards found to have been far more considerable than that of the King's Troops.

Return

*Return of Killed, Wounded, and Missing, of the Troops under the command of
Lieutenant General LAKE. Castlebar, 27th August, 1798.*

	Killed			Wounded			Missing.										Horses.		
	Serjants	Rank and File	Lieutenants	Serjants	Rank and File	Majors	Captains	Lieutenants	Ensigns	Staff	Serjants	Drummers	Rank and File	Killed	Wounded	Missing			
Light Brigade Irish Artillery		2			2									12	6	32			
Carabineers						1		1					25						
6th Foot								1	2	1	1	1	16						
Frazer Fencibles	1	11			2						8		146						
Royal Longford Militia		23			9		1	1	1				42						
Kilkenny Militia		12			10	1							10						
Galway Volunteers		4			6		2	3											
	1	52	2	3	29	2	3	6	3	2	10	2	51	6		32			

No return of the Carabineers was received.

Names

NAMES OF PRISONERS.

6th Foot.

Major Macbean
 Ensign Hill
 Ensign Martelli, missing
 Ensign Burrows, do.
 Assistant Surgeon Walters, do.
 Lieutenant M'Quire, killed.

Royal Longford Militia.

Captain Chambers, wounded
 Lieutenant and Assistant Surgeon, wounded and
 missing.
 Ensign Sedwith, wounded
 Lieutenant and Adjutant Telford, prisoner.

Kilkenny Regiment of Militia.

Major Alcock, wounded and prisoner
 Lieutenant and Adjutant Walford, wounded do.
 One battalion gun lost, with tumbril, &c. &c.

Galway Volunteers.

2 Captains and 3 Lieutenants, missing
 2 Lieutenants, wounded
 1 Lieutenant, prisoner, but rescued
 Volunteer French, wounded and missing.

Frazer Fencibles.

Loft, two battalion guns
Ammunition, Tumbrils, &c. &c.

Ordnance, Royal Artillery.

Curricie guns and carts, four	4
Battalion guns, five	5
	<hr/>
Total	9

Longford Militia.

Loft, two battalion guns
Ammunition, &c.

* Immediately after receiving the report of this affair, Lord Cornwallis proceeded to Athlone, where, upon his arrival, he received information from different quarters, but particularly from Mr. O'Donnell, Captain of the Newport Pratt Yeomanry, and from a Lieutenant of the Carabineers, both of whom had left Tuam in the morning that Lieutenant General Lake had retired to that place, and had been followed by the French who were stated to have driven his corps out of the town, and to have taken possession of it. However extraordinary such an event appeared, the information was so positive and so circumstantial, that there seemed

* Notes 2 and 3, with translations.

no grounds for doubting its authenticity, although it afterwards proved to be perfectly unfounded.

The French were further said to have been joined by very considerable numbers of the inhabitants, and to have distributed arms to them; and Sir Thomas Chapman who had retired to French Park, also reported that the country to the Northward, towards Sligo, was in open rebellion. Every possible precaution became indispensable. His Excellency therefore determined, at all events, to halt at Athlone, until joined by the Sutherland and Reay Fencibles, who were directed to hasten their march from Longford, and to wait the arrival of the Queen's and 29th Regiment, then on their march from Kilkenny, and who were expected to join in the course of five days. The brigade of Guards from Waterford, Ross, and Clonmell had also been directed to move towards the Shannon, and the Yeomanry, throughout the kingdom, were ordered upon permanent duty. The city of Limerick Regiment was ordered from Carrick on Shannon to Enniskillen.

Every precaution was taken to secure the town of Athlone against attack, and piquets and patrols were far advanced on the roads to Ballinasloe and Tuam.

The first division of the Sutherland and Reay Fencibles arrived at Athlone late on the 28th, the remainder on the 29th. Letters were on that day received from Lieutenant General Lake, stating that he had been under the necessity of continuing his retreat to Tuam; during which he had been joined near Hollymount, by the Louth Militia. A flag of truce had arrived on the 29th at Tuam, with 12 of the officers taken prisoners at Castlebar, from whom he learnt that numbers of the inhabitants had joined the French, as well as many deserters from the Longford and Kilkenny regiments. The French remained at Castlebar, having a few piquets in front of the town; Ballinrobe, Hollymount, Swineford, &c. were occupied by the rebels. Lieutenant General Lake added, that from the reduction which had taken place in his corps, and the want of artillery and ammunition, he should be obliged to draw nearer to Athlone.

Upon the receipt of the above report, Lord Cornwallis determined to move forward on the 30th with the corps under his command. Orders were sent to Lieutenant General Lake to halt the Sixth Regiment, the Louth Militia, and the detachment of the Fraser Fencibles, and Lord Roden's Fencible Dragoons at Ballinamore, and to direct the remainder of his corps (the conduct of which during the retreat had been very disorderly)

to proceed on their march to Athlone. Brigadier General Taylor, who with the troops he had collected, was retreating upon Carrick on Shannon, was ordered to halt at Boyle.

In the mean time reports were received from Captain Thatcher, who with a detachment of the Northumberland Fencibles, was stationed at Kilbeggan, that an attack was intended on his post, by about 1000 Rebels collected in the neighbourhood, who were to be joined by those from the County of Kildare. In consequence, Brigadier General Barnett was directed to order the Yeomanry from Moat and the neighbourhood to Kilbeggan, and if necessary to detach further from the Garrison of Athlone, when enabled so to do by the arrival of the Longford and Kilkenny Regiments.

Major General Nugent reported on the 29th, that he had ordered the 3d Battalion of Light Infantry, from Enniskillen to Sligo. That the Limerick City Regiment had arrived at Enniskillen and remained there with the Breadalbane Fencible Regiment, whilst the Argyll Fencibles occupied Belturbet, and that he had ordered all the boats at Lough Erne, as well as in Lough Neagh and the River Bann, to be secured, to prevent the possibility

of a junction, should the disaffected in the North attempt a rising.

Lord Cornwallis's corps arrived and encamped on the 30th, near Ballinamore, where his Excellency halted the 31st, to give the Queen's and 29th regiments time to join him. These regiments had made a most expeditious march from Wexford; and arrived at Ballinasloe on the 31st. Lieutenant Colonel Craufurd (Deputy Quartermaster General) was sent forward towards Castlebar, with a strong patrol of Lord Roden's Fencibles, and Hompesch's Dragoons, to ascertain the position and proceedings of the enemy. Brigadier General Taylor was directed to wait further orders at Boyle, to send constant and strong patrols in every direction, and very far in his front. The brigade of Guards was ordered to halt at Birr, where they would be within reach should their support be required.

Brigadier General Barnett reported from Athlone, that the forges both in Roscommon and on the Leinster side, were busily employed in making pikes, and that a great number of trees had been cut down for that purpose.

Lieutenant Colonel Craufurd had, on the 31st, proceeded to Holly Mount, and to Kilmain, near
which

which place he took a few rebels prisoners ; and he learnt that a considerable body of armed rebels, commanded by Mr. George Blake, were in possession of Ballinrobe. Not having any infantry with him, and the horses of the cavalry being fatigued, he judged it adviseable not to push any further on that day, and returned to Hollymount.

Lord Cornwallis, on the 1st September, proceeded to Knock Hill, where his corps encamped. His Excellency here received a further report from Colonel Craufurd, who had advanced about five miles from Hollymount, in the direction of Castlebar, without meeting with an enemy. He was informed by persons who had escaped from Castlebar, that the French had been joined by many of the inhabitants of the district, to the North of the line, from Ballinrobe to Clare, but particularly from the Western and most mountainous parts of the county of Mayo ; in which neighbourhood it was said that several gentlemen headed the insurgents.

Colonel Craufurd also sent a patrol into Ballinrobe, where they found about 80 men in arms, whom they dispersed, killing 12, the remainder having with Mr. Blake left the place for Castlebar in the morning. A flag of truce arrived at Hollymount on the same day, under the pretence of

bringing in two of the carabineers, but evidently for the purpose of reconnoitring.

Lord Cornwallis on the 2d arrived and encamped about two miles in front of Tuam, where he was joined by the Queen's and 29th regiments, and the annexed was the order of battle of his Excellency's corps on that day.

To those who have been at the trouble of considering the state of the country, as well as the obvious circumstances which had prepared and produced the enemy's first success at Castlebar, it may be unnecessary to observe on the propriety and the prudence of the motives which probably induced Lord Cornwallis not to place himself in a situation to give or to receive a decisive action, until his corps should be composed of troops in which he could firmly confide. The result of the action of Castlebar was a sufficient proof of what might be expected from a second check, particularly if received by any part of the corps which was then moving forward. Its effect would not have been confined to the increase of men and means, which would have resulted to the small corps of French troops, whose existence rested solely on the degree of support they received; it would have extended to the disaffected in every part of the kingdom, who,

ORDER of MARQUIS CORNWALLIS

bell



Roxburgh Fenc. Dr.



Sutherland Fenc.



5th Dragoon Guards



1 Fenc.

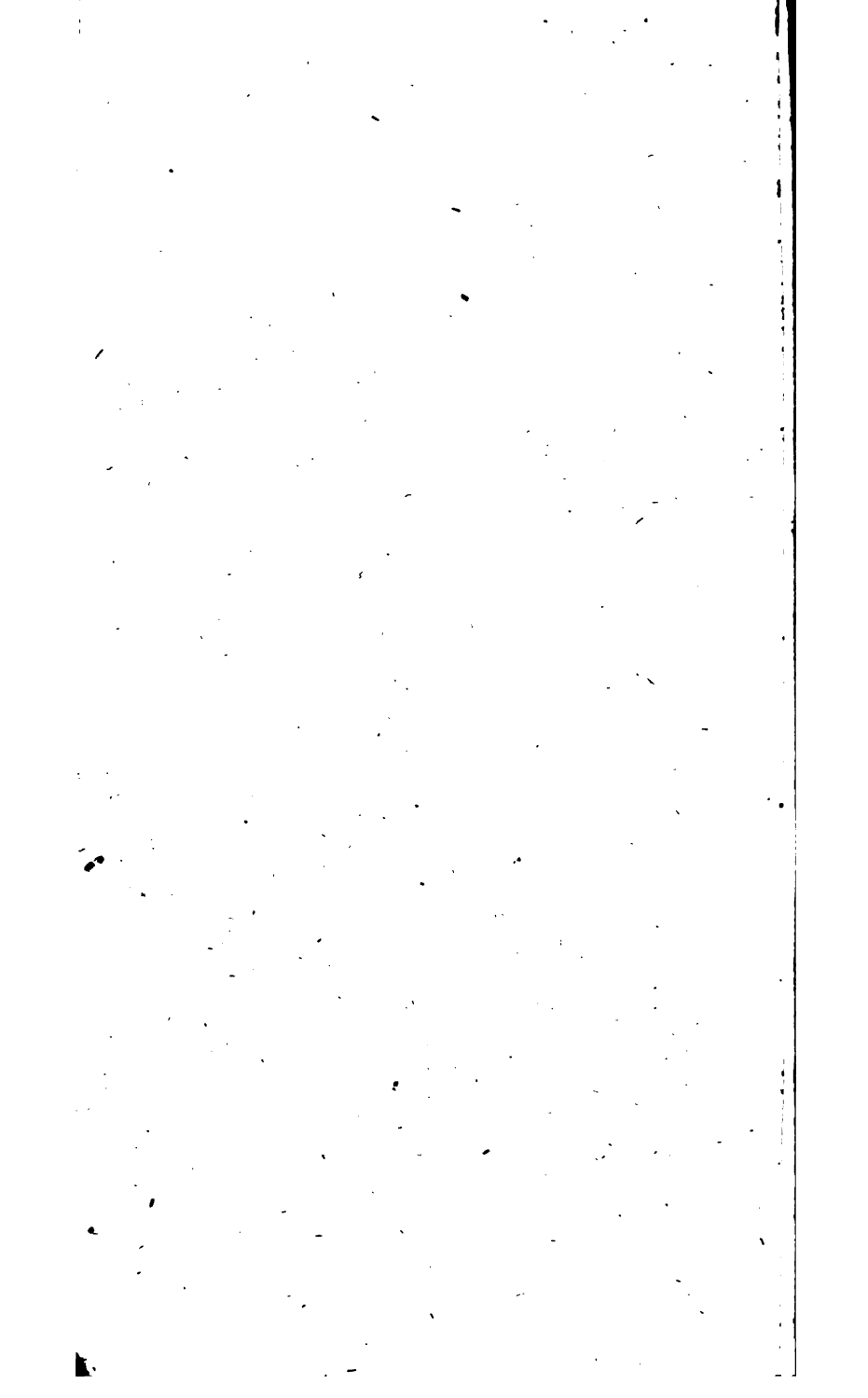
Hompesch's Drag.

M. Genl. Campbell

M. Genl. Hutchins

M. Genl. Hunter.....

M. Genl. Moore.....



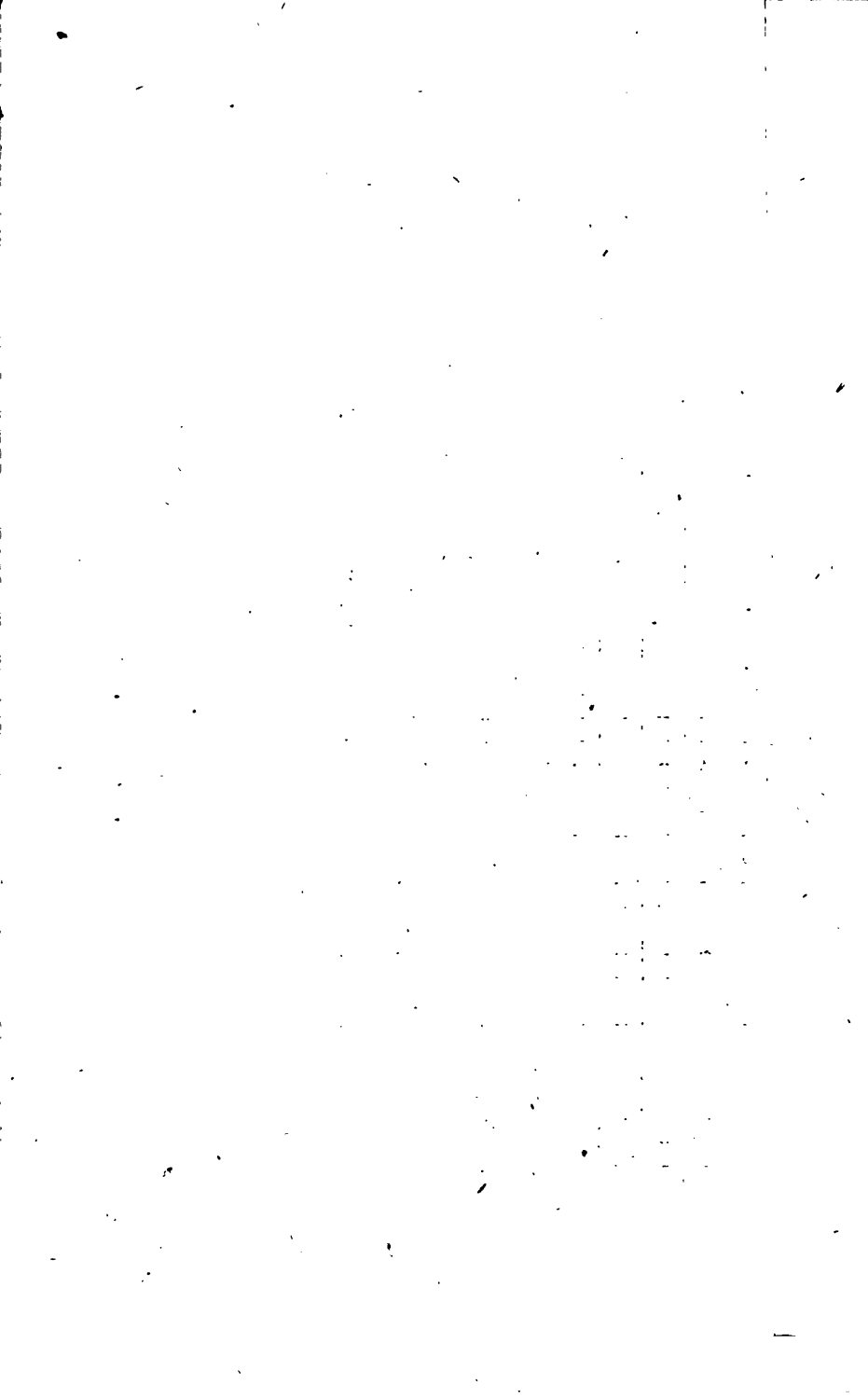
who, there was good reason to believe, had only continued quiet as yet, because they were unwilling to trust to the first success of so small a foreign support, in an undertaking which, if it ultimately failed, must affect their lives and properties, and because they were looking forward to the arrival of an additional French force which was known to be prepared in Brest, and which was prevented by our fleet cruising off that port, from sailing at the same time that General Humbert left Rochfort.

In many parts of the country, however, and particularly in those which had been the seat of former disturbance, the disaffected were not influenced by cautious considerations, but were actually in arms and avowing their purpose of giving every possible assistance to the French, and of impeding, by every means in their power, the operations of the King's troops. Large bodies were collecting in the counties of Kildare, Westmeath, and Longford; Roscommon was overawed by the vicinity of the troops alone, and even the capital was threatened with serious disturbances and risings, which could not either be said to have subsided in the counties of Wicklow, Wexford, and Carlow, although they had been reduced to a state of comparative quiet previous to the withdrawing of Major General Moore's corps.

Lord

Lord Cornwallis had received positive information that the Brest expedition was destined for the North of Ireland, and that it was only waiting a favourable opportunity to elude the vigilance of our fleets; General Humbert's remaining at Castlebar might with reason be attributed to the expectation of receiving reinforcements himself, and of a co-operation from the corps which was to sail from Brest; and as long as he continued stationary, there were not any grounds attaching to his corps solely, which could justify any measure on the part of Lord Cornwallis, not adopted with a moral certainty of success, or which was attended with the most distant probability of a trifling check, or partial risk.—These observations, if admitted as just, will sufficiently account for his Excellency's desire to be joined by so respectable a reinforcement as that of two old and well disciplined regiments of the line, before he proceeded to strike a blow, which in its effects involved considerations far more important than the mere operations which, under other circumstances, would have been directed against the enemy with whom he had to contend.

His Excellency determined to reinforce Brigadier General Taylor's corps, so as to enable it to act with decision and vigour upon the enemy's left, and more effectually to secure the country to the
Eastward



STATE of the BRABLE

ROBERT TAYL 798.

QUARTERS.		d	Men attached to the Bat-	
			talion Guns.	
Boyle	Royal Ir		-	-
Col. Chapman	Carabino	0	-	-
	Manorh	4	-	-
	Lowther	2	-	-
	Newpor	9	-	-
Lieut. Colonel	Twenty	3	-	-
	Roxburg	8	-	-
	ist. Fern	9	-	-
Maxwell	Carberry	5	-	-
Lt. Col. Crosbie	Kerry M		30	-
Lieut. Colonel	Northan		-	-
	Enniskil		-	-
	Fermana		-	-
	Lisbellon		-	-
	Beleck		-	-
	Wattle-		-	-
Lt. Col. Sparrow	Lurg T		-	-
	Essex Fe		30	-
Lieut. Colonel	Prince o		30	-
	Ballymo		-	-
	Manorh		-	-
	Castleba		-	-
	Lowther		-	-
	Sligo In		-	-
Macartney	Westpor		-	-
		0	90	

Eastward and Northward, should the enemy, instead of awaiting his Excellency's attack at Castlebar, attempt to push either towards Sligo or the Shannon. The annexed return of the force under Brigadier General Taylor, consisting in great measure of very small corps, and of detachments, will point out to every military man, the necessity of reinforcing it, before it could be brought forward and placed in a situation where it might perhaps be under the necessity of acting independently.

Lieutenant General Lake therefore marched early on the 3d, with the Reay Fencibles and the Armagh Militia, by Dunmore, to Ballinlough, whence he was to proceed to French Park. General Taylor received orders on the same day, to advance with the whole of his corps to French Park, where Lieutenant General Lake would take the command. Brigadier General Taylor's advanced posts were on the 3d pushed forward to Ballaghy, Swineford, Kilkelly, &c. ; and Lieutenant Colonel Craufurd was ordered to patrol from Hollymount towards Clare, Ball, Balcurra, &c. and to endeavour to ascertain the position of the enemy. The reports of persons who had escaped from the country in the possession of the enemy, stated, that they intended if possible to make a stand at Castlebar, where they had been joined by about 8000 rebels, who were principally armed with pikes ;
should

should they however be under the necessity of retreating from Castlebar, that they proposed taking refuge in the mountainous parts of the County of Mayo, and there wait further reinforcements from France;

Major General Nugent proceeded on the 2d. to make the necessary arrangements for the security of Sligo, in case of attack; he had ordered the Limerick City Regiment from Enniskillen, as a reinforcement to its garrison, which was formed of the following corps, Major General Nugent having sent the third battalion of Light Infantry to Brigadier General Taylor's corps, and having received in exchange, the Essex Regiment of Fencible Infantry.

Garrison of Sligo.

	MEN
Essex Fencibles—Lieutenant Colonel Sparrow	250
Limerick City Militia—Colonel Vereker	300
Sligo Yeoman Infantry — —	100
Manor Hamilton Infantry —	55
Ballymote Infantry —	45
Artenan Infantry — —	50
Twenty-Fourth Dragoons—Captain Whistler	36
Drumcliff Yeomanry Cavalry —	20
	<hr/> 856

A baggage Guard of the Prince of Wales's Fencibles.

Artillery

Artillery at Sligo.

2 Medium Six-pounders—returned from Boyle
 2 Field Pieces of the Essex Fencibles
 2 Curricule Six-pounders, left by the Light Battalion, and now attached to the Limerick Regiment.
 With Detachments of the Royal Artillery.

Colonel Vereker, the senior officer, was ordered not to move out of the town, unless he found he could not maintain it; in which case he was to retire upon Ballyshannon. After making the necessary arrangements at Sligo and Ballyshannon, Major General Nugent returned to Enniskillen.

On the 4th, Lord Cornwallis moved forward with the whole of his corps, and encamped in the rear of Hollymount: Here he received information that the enemy had entrenched himself behind Castlebar, on the ground where the attack was made on Lieutenant-general Lake's corps, and that he had posted the rebels in Castlebar and the villages in its front. His Excellency, upon this intelligence, determined to march from Hollymount at day-break, with the whole of his corps, with the view of attacking the enemy; and directed Lieutenant-general Lake to advance to Ballaghy, to push his advanced posts to Foxford and Castlebar, and

and to communicate with him by patrols on the roads from Swiniford to Molina and Ball.

In the evening, however, of the 4th, Lord Cornwallis received information, that the enemy had marched early in the morning from Castlebar, with the whole of his force, in the direction of Foxford, and a confirmation of this report was received from Lieutenant-Colonel Crauford, who had pushed into Castlebar, upon learning that the enemy had left the place, where he found several wounded officers and men, about 50 barrels of powder, an ammunition-waggon, and some arms. The intelligence he received was contradictory, some reports stating that the enemy was marching to Sligo, others that he intended an attack on Lieutenant-General Lake's corps, but not being able to gain any positive information, he determined to follow the enemy at day-break the next morning, and to hang upon his rear, with the detachment of Hompesch and Lord Roden's fencible dragoons, which formed the corps under his orders. Lieutenant-Colonel Crauford, also apprehended in Castlebar, Mr. John Moore, whom General Humbert had appointed President of the Council, for the Province of Connaught.*

Note 4, and Translation.

As it was impossible to form a correct judgment of General Humbert's object, Lord Cornwallis sent directions to Lieutenant-General Lake to follow him, and to harass and impede his march, but not to risk an action, unless with almost a certainty of success. His Excellency marched at day-break on the 5th, from Hollymount, through Clare to Ballyhaunis, and the Yeomanry Corps of Mayo were ordered to return to their former stations in that county.

During the march to Ballyhaunis, and very near that place, Lord Cornwallis received information from Lieutenant-General Lake, and from his own patrols, that the enemy was marching, with the utmost expedition, towards Sligo, and had passed Tubber curry, where he had been slightly engaged with the Yeomanry of the place. His Excellency upon this, determined to reinforce Lieutenant-General Lake's corps, and Major-General Moore accordingly marched very early in the morning of the 6th, with the 100th regiment, and the two flank battalions, in the direction of Tubber-curry. His Excellency, with the remainder of the corps proposed marching upon Carrick, there to pass the Shannon, and to proceed up the Eastern Bank of that river; regulating his subsequent movements according to those of the enemy. Orders were sent to the garrison of Sligo, not to wait the enemy's

my's attack in that open and defenceless town, but to retire to Ballyshannon or Enniskillen.

Reports were received at Ballyhaunis, that serious disturbances were taking place in the counties of Westmeath and Longford; that the people were rising in the neighbourhood of Ballimore, Granard, Rathown, the Islands of Rathaspick, Mullingar, Kilbeggan, &c. and had proceeded to acts of rebellion. Major General Trench had, in consequence, detached from the Garrison of Athlone to Ballimore, &c. and had ordered Brigadier General Dunne to reinforce Mullingar from Tullamore. Major General Nugent had also ordered a detachment of the Argyll Fencibles, from Belturbet and Cavan, to Granard, which, however, returned, upon receiving information that the rebels assembled in its neighbourhood, had been defeated, with great slaughter, by the Yeomanry Corps under Lord Longford and Captain Cottingham.

In consequence of these events, and the apprehensions which appeared to be entertained in every part of the Counties of Longford and Westmeath, that the rebellion was spreading, and was likely soon to become formidable, his Excellency thought proper to order the Brigade of Guards from Birr to Kilbeggan, where they would also be at hand, should it be found necessary to send troops
to

to Dublin, where some disposition to disturbance had been manifested ; boats were accordingly ordered to be held in readiness at Phillip's Town, for their conveyance by Canal.

On the 6th the corps under Lord Cornwallis's command, proceeded to French Park, where His Excellency received reports from Major General Nugent and Lieutenant General Lake, of an unsuccessful attack, which had, on the preceding day, been made by Colonel Vereker, with a part of the Garrison of Sligo, upon the enemy, who had proceeded in the direction of Sligo, and had halted at Colooney.

Colonel Vereker having received information that a detachment of the enemy was at Colooney, and intended from thence to move round by Drumahair, to support the attack to be made upon Sligo, by Ballisadore, and under the impression that the main body of the enemy had remained in Castlebar, marched from Sligo with about 270 men of the Limerick City Militia, 30 of the Twen-fourth Dragoons, and 2 curriele guns, which, from the information he had received, he thought a force equal to the attack of the enemy. The engagement took place about a quarter of a mile to the northward of Colooney, and was warmly maintained for the space of an hour, when the

D

French,

French, by their great superiority of numbers, were enabled to out-flank, and to force Colonel Vereker's right, and obliged him to retreat. The officers and men of the Limerick City Regiment, behaved most gallantly in the action, and suffered considerably. Captain Cripps, their adjutant, was killed; Colonel Vereker, the Lieutenant Colonel, the Major, and two Subalterns were wounded; two Captains and two Subalterns taken prisoners. Had the enemy been opposed with equal firmness by some of the corps at Castlebar, he would probably never have reached Colooney.

Colonel Vereker retreated to Sligo, which he evacuated, retiring to Ballyshannon, upon finding that the enemy had on the night of the 5th, marched round by Drumahair and Ballitogher, apparently on his route to Sligo.

M. General Nugent, upon the receipt of Colonel Vereker's report, sent Brigadier General Champagne to Ballyshannon, with orders to attend to the defences of that place and of Beleek. The Queen's County Regiment was destined to reinforce these posts if required, and the Argyll Regiment was ordered from Belturbet to Enniskillen.

Major General Moore's corps arrived and encamped near Tobbercurry, on the evening of the 6th,

6th, having marched 19 Irish miles without halting. Lieutenant General Lake, on the morning of the same day, arrived at Colooney, from which place the enemy had marched the preceding night to Drumahair. Lieutenant General Lake immediately proceeded to Ballentogher, having sent forward Lieutenant Colonel Craufurd with a strong patrol towards Drumahair.

On the march from Colooney he found three fix-pounders and one tumbril (British) which the enemy had dismounted and thrown into the ditch by the road side ; and Lieutenant Colonel Craufurd reported, that the enemy had marched at 11 o'clock A. M. on the 6th, from Drumahair to Manor Hamilton, having previously thrown five guns and one tumbril (British) over the bridge at the former place.

Lieutenant General Lake proceeded to Drumahair, and having received a further report that the enemy had suddenly turned to the right at Drumkiern, he sent orders to Colonel Vereker to march back to Sligo, with the garrison and the yeomanry that were retiring to Ballyshannon, their absence having created much uneasiness in the country.

Lord Cornwallis judging from the enemy's
D 2 movements.

movements, that it was his intention to proceed to Boyle, or Carrick on Shannon, hastened the march of his troops from French Park to the latter place, which they reached on the 7th, after a most rapid march.

Major General Moore, who was at Tobbercurry, and who by the sudden turn the enemy had taken, was thrown one day's march in the rear of Lieutenant General Lake's corps, was directed to be prepared in the event of the enemy's movement to Boyle.

The Brigade of Guards was ordered from Killebeggan to Mullingar, and to move on to the Southward a little in advance of Lord Cornwallis's corps.

Lieutenant Colonel Craufurd, who had never lost sight of the enemy, came up close to their rear guard on the 7th, between Drumshambo and Ballinamore, killed a few, and caused the infantry to form, which being posted in ditches he could not attack. Lieutenant General Lake had proceeded with the utmost expedition with the remainder of his corps, and encamped about two miles in front of Drumshambo, on the same day.

From henceforth, the movements of the different
corps

corps are so clearly and so circumstantially stated in Lord Cornwallis's public letter of the 9th September, to the Duke of Portland, that it is perfectly unnecessary to enter into any further details, and I have, therefore, annexed a copy of it.

COPY of the LORD LIEUTENANT's LETTER to the DUKE of PORTLAND.

*St. John's Town, County of Longford,
9th Sept. 1798.*

“ MY LORD,

“ When I wrote to Your Grace on the 5th, I had every reason to believe, from the enemy's movement to Drumchair, that it was their intention to march to the North, and it was natural to suppose, that they might hope that a French force would get into some of the bays in that part of the country, without a succour of which kind every point of direction for their march seemed equally desperate. I received, however, very early in the morning of the 7th, accounts from General Lake, that they had turned to their right at Drumkeirn, and that he had reason to believe that it was their intention to go to Boyle or Carrick on Shannon; in consequence of which, I hastened the march of the troops under my immediate command, in order to arrive before the enemy at Carrick, and directed Major General Moore, who was at Tobbercurry, to be prepared in the event

of the enemy's movement to Boyle. On my arrival at Carrick I found that the enemy had passed the Shannon at Balintra, where they had attempted to destroy the bridge, but General Lake followed them so closely, that they were not able to effect it. Under these circumstances, I felt pretty confident, that one more march would bring this disagreeable warfare to a conclusion ; and having obtained satisfactory information that the enemy had halted for the night at Cloon ; I marched, with the troops at Carrick, at ten o'clock, on the night of the 7th, to Mohill, and directed General Lake to proceed at the same time to Cloon, which is about three miles from Mohill, by which movement I should be able to join with General Lake in the attack of the enemy, if they should remain at Cloon, or to intercept their retreat, if they should, as it was most probable, retire on the approach of our army. On my arrival at Mohill, soon after day-break, I found that the enemy had begun to move towards Granard ; I therefore proceeded, with all possible expedition, to this place, through which I was assured, on account of a broken bridge, that the enemy must pass in their way to Granard, and directed General Lake to attack the enemy's rear, and impede their march as much as possible, without bringing the whole of his corps into action. Lieutenant General Lake performed this service with his usual attention and ability, and the enclosed letter which I have

have just received from him, will explain the circumstances which produced an immediate surrender of the enemy's army. * The copy of my orders which I enclose will show how much reason I have to be satisfied with the exertions of the troops, and I request that your Grace will be pleased to inform his Majesty, that I have received the greatest assistance from the General and Staff who have served with the army.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CORNWALLIS,

His Grace

The Duke of Portland, &c.

Lieutenant General Lake, in the report alluded to in his Excellency's letter, states, that after four days and nights most severe marching, his column arrived at Cloon about seven o'clock on the morning of the 8th, when, after having received directions from Lord Cornwallis to follow the enemy on the same line, while his Excellency moved by the lower road to intercept him, he advanced, having previously detached the Monaghan Light Com-

* Note 5.

pany, mounted behind dragoons, to harrafs the enemy's rear. Lieutenant Colonel Craufurd, on coming up with the French rear guard, summoned them to surrender, but as they did not attend to his summons, he attacked them, upon which upwards of 200 French infantry threw down their arms. Under the idea that the remainder of the corps would do the same, Captain Packenham, Lieutenant General of the Ordnance, and Major General Cradock, Quartermaster General, rode up to them. The enemy, however, instantly commenced a fire of cannon and musquetry, from which General Cradock received a wound in the arm. Lieutenant General Lake then ordered the 3d battalion of light infantry, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Innis, of the 64th regiment, supported by part of the Armagh Regiment of Militia, to commence the attack upon the enemy's position. The action lasted upwards of half an hour, when the remainder of the column making its appearance, the French surrendered at discretion. The rebels (whose force, notwithstanding the great reduction which had taken place in it from desertion, during the march, still amounted to about 1500,) dispersed, but numbers of them were killed on the field and in their flight. Mr. Blake was taken prisoner, and afterwards executed in pursuance of the sentence of a general court martial.

Lieutenant

Lieutenant General Lake, in his report, speaks in high terms of the conduct of the officers and men under his command, and particularly mentions Lieutenant Colonel Craufurd, of whose zeal, spirit, and abilities, too much cannot indeed be said; and whose exertions were admirably seconded by the detachment of Hompesch Dragoons, under the command of Captain O'Toole, of that corps. The following is the return of the loss suffered by the King's troops at Ballinamuck:

Killed.—Officers none; privates 3; horses 11.

Wounded.—Officer 1; privates 12; horse 1.

Missing.—Privates 3; horses 8.

It may be naturally supposed, that in a country where no magazines were established, considerable and unavoidable difficulties must have occurred in supplying the troops which had been suddenly marched into it, and whose movements in every direction were entirely unexpected. The manner in which the troops were nevertheless supplied, and which at no time afforded cause for complaint, speaks sufficiently in praise of the abilities and the exertions of Colonel Handfield, the Commissary General.

Having,

Having, I trust, proved satisfactorily that no delay had taken place previous to the arrival of Lord Cornwallis's corps at Hollymount, which was not indispensably necessary from prudential motives, and of which the consequences had undergone the most serious consideration in all their effects, I cannot conclude this statement without recommending to attention, the movements of the different corps from that period, for an explanation of which I must refer to the annexed map of the seat of operations.

To those who have expatiated on the activity of the enemy, and the rapidity of his progress, it appears necessary to observe, that his precipitate march from Castlebar had given him a day's advance on both Lieutenant General Lake's and Lord Cornwallis's corps; that he moved without baggage, forcing a supply wherever he passed; and that so much was expedition his principal object, that he had even abandoned the greater part of his artillery on his route. Notwithstanding which he was overtaken in one direction by Lieutenant General Lake's corps, and intercepted in another by Lord Cornwallis's; the exertions and activity of whose troops must therefore be admitted to have been superior even to those which have with some individuals been so much a subject of admiration.

No

No inconvenience resulted to the country from the continuance of the enemy at Castlebar having been protracted for the space of three days, but the consequences would perhaps have proved fatal had the desperate effort which he made upon the approach of the King's troops, and which was evidently directed against the capital, been attempted before Lord Cornwallis had assembled such a force as enabled him to act with energy, and until the presence and example of some experienced troops had given confidence to his corps, in great measure composed of regiments brave and zealous indeed, but unexperienced. It was also essentially necessary for his Excellency to reinforce the corps on his right, with a view to impede the enemy's movements in that quarter.

Lord Cornwallis's march to Carrick on Shannon, was equally calculated to counteract the enemy's operations, had he penetrated into the North, as it was to oppose his progress to the capital, but the latter was a consideration of such infinite importance, that his Excellency was further induced to direct the march of the brigade of Guards to Mullingar and Kilbeggan, where its presence must ultimately have defeated the enemy's project, had he by the rapidity of his march succeeded in escaping the two corps immediately in pursuit of him, whilst it contributed essentially to
the

the restoration of order in the counties of Westmeath and Kildare, and to its preservation in Dublin and the neighbourhood.

The circumstances which had required such movements and precautions, cannot again occur, should even a force of the enemy, far superior to that under General Humbert, effect a landing upon the Irish coast. The disposition of the troops which was ordered, although not executed, when General Humbert landed, having since taken place, and the zeal and loyalty of the English militia, having enabled Government to send such reinforcements to Ireland as, combined with the laudable exertions and the active spirit which have upon so many trying occasions been manifested by the yeomanry of Ireland, must ensure the possibility of providing without delay, against foreign attempts, and of suppressing internal risings.

APPENDIX.

NOTE I.

LIBERTY, EQUALITY, FRATERNITY,
UNION!

IRISHMEN,

YOU have not forgot Bantry Bay—you know what efforts France has made to assist you. Her affections for you, her desire for avenging your wrongs, and assuring your independance, can never be impaired.

After several unsuccessful attempts, behold Frenchmen arrived amongst you.

They come to support your courage, to share your dangers, to join their arms, and to mix their blood with yours in the sacred cause of liberty. They are the forerunners of other Frenchmen, whom you shall soon infold in your arms.

Brave

Brave IRISHMEN, our cause is common ; like you, we abhor the avaricious and blood-thirsty policy of an oppressive government ; like you, we hold as indefeasible the right of all nations to liberty ; like you, we are persuaded that the peace of the world shall ever be troubled, as long as the British Ministry is suffered to make with impunity a traffic of the industry, labour, and blood of the people.

But exclusive of the same interests which unite us, we have powerful motives, to love and defend you.

Have we not been the pretext of the cruelty exercised against you by the Cabinet of St. James's ? The heartfelt interest you have shewn in the grand events of our revolution—Has it not been imputed to you as a crime ? Are not tortures and death continually hanging over such of you as are barely suspected of being our friends ? Let us unite, then, and march to glory.

We swear the most inviolable respect for your properties, your laws, and all your religious opinions. Be free ; be masters in your own country. We look for no other conquest than that of your liberty—no other success than yours.

The moment of breaking your chains is arrived ; our triumphant troops are now flying to the extremities of the earth, to tear up the roots of the wealth and tyranny of our enemies. That frightful Colossus is mouldering away in every part. Can there be any Irishman base enough to separate himself at such a happy conjuncture from the grand interests of his country ? If such there be, brave friends, let him be chased from the country he betrays, and let his property become the reward of those generous men who know how to fight and die.

Irishmen, recollect the late defeats which your enemies have experienced from the French ; recollect the Plains of Honscoote, Toulon, Quiberon, and Ostend ; recollect America, free from the moment she wished to be so.

The contest between you and your oppressors cannot be long.

Union ! Liberty ! the Irish Republic !—such is our shout. Let us march. Our hearts are devoted to you ; our glory is in your happiness.

NOTE II.

ARMÉE D'IRLANDE.

*Au Quartier Général à Castlebar, le onze
Fructidor, an six de la République Française.*

LE GENERAL COMMANDANT EN CHEF L'ARMÉE
D'IRLANDE AU DIRECTOIRE EXECUTIF.

JE vous dois, Citoyens Directeurs, le rapport de
mes opérations depuis mon arrivée en Irlande.

Le 4^{me} Fructidor, l'armée a été nommée l'armée
d'Irlande, dès que j'ai aperçu les atterages de
Broadhaven. Les vents étant contraires il n'a pas
été possible d'approcher terre de ce jour.

Le 5^{me}, la division de frégates après avoir lutté
pendant douze heures contre les vents et les cou-
rants a mouillé dans la baie de Killala, vers les trois
heures de l'après midi. Comme le Pavillon An-
glais était arboré nous avons eu la visite de plu-
sieurs personnes de marque et de quelques officiers
Anglais,

Anglais, dont l'étonnement à notre vue ne peut se dépeindre. A quatre heures le débarquement a été ordonné. L'Adjutant Général Sarrazin a débarqué le premier à la tête des grenadiers; je lui ai donné l'ordre de marcher sur Killala dont il s'est emparé à la bayonnette: Je l'ai nommé Général de Brigade sur le champ de bataille. L'ennemi a été dérouteré complètement;—de ce poste gardé par deux cents hommes, une vingtaine se sont sauvés à travers les murailles, les autres ont été pris ou tués. Presque tous les prisonniers ont demandé à servir avec nous, je le leur ai accordé avec plaisir. Le débarquement était totalement effectué vers les dix heures du soir.

Le 6me, le Général Sarrazin a été reconnaître *Ballina*, il n'y a eû qu'une légère escarmouche, la cavalerie ennemie s'étant retirée au grand galop pendant plus de deux lieues.

Le 7me, j'ai marché avec l'armée sur *Ballina*. Le Général Sarrazin a la tête des grenadiers et d'un bataillon de ligne a culbuté tout ce qui s'est opposé à son passage. L'Adjutant Général Fontaine a été chargé de tourner l'ennemi, son attaque a très bien réussi, et il a fait plusieurs prisonniers. J'ai poursuivi pendant longtemps la cavalerie avec le brave troisieme regiment de chasseurs à cheval.

Le 8me, l'armée Française a été jointe par un corps d'Irlandais Unis, qui ont été armés et habillés sur le champ ; vers les trois heures du soir je me suis porté sur Rappa, j'ai gardé cette position jusqu'à deux heures après minuit.

Le 9me, l'armée a marché sur Ballina, où elle a pris position, elle en est partie à trois heures de l'après midi. Après une marche de quinze heures, je suis arrivé le 10me, à 6 heures du matin, sur les hauteurs en arrière de Castlebar, j'ai reconnu la position de l'ennemi qui était très forte, j'ai ordonné au Général Sarrazin de commencer l'attaque. Les Tirailleurs de l'ennemi ont été repoussés vivement. Le Chef de Bataillon Dufour les a chassés jusqu'au pied de la position de l'armée ennemie. Les grenadiers se sont portés au pas de charge sur la ligne de bataille, l'infanterie de ligne les a suivis, le déploiement des colonnes s'est opéré sous le feu de douze pièces de canon. Le Général Sarrazin a fait attaquer la gauche de l'ennemi, par un bataillon de ligne, qui a été obligé de se replier essuyant le feu de plus de deux mille hommes. Le Général Sarrazin vole à son secours à la tête des grenadiers et repousse l'ennemi. Les Anglais font pendant une demi heure un feu terrible de mousqueterie. Le Général Sarrazin défend qu'on riposte. Notre contenance fière déconcerte le Général Anglais. Dès que l'armée est toute arrivée j'ordonne

j'ordonne l'attaque générale. Le Général Sarrazin à la tête des grenadiers culbute la droite de l'ennemi et s'empare de trois pieces de canon, le Chef de Bataillon Ardouin force la gauche de l'ennemi à replier dans Castlebar. L'ennemi concentré dans la ville et soutenu par son artillerie fait un feu terrible. Le troisieme regiment de chasseurs effectue une charge dans la grande rue de Castlebar, et force l'ennemi à passer de l'autre côté du pont. Après plusieurs charges très meurtrières de cavalerie et d'infanterie dirigées par le Général Sarrazin et l'Adjutant Général Fontaine, l'ennemi a été chassé de toutes ses positions, et poursuivi encore pendant deux lieues.

L'ennemi a perdu dix huit cents hommes dont six cents tués ou blessés et douze cents prisonniers, dix pieces de canon, cinq drapeaux, douze cent fusils, et presque tous les equipages. Le drapeau de la cavalerie ennemie a été enlevé dans une charge par le Général Sarrazin, que j'ai nommé Général de Division sur le champ de bataille. J'ai aussi nommé pendant l'action l'Adjutant Général Fontaine, Général de Brigade, les Chefs de Bataillon Azemare, Ardouin et Dufour, Chefs de Brigade, le Capitaine Durival Chef d'Escadron, et les Capitaines Touffaint, Zilberman, Ranon, Huette, Babiou, et Rutz, Chefs de Bataillon. Je vous prie Citoyens Directeurs, de confirmer ces nominations

et de faire expedier les brevets le plutot possible cela produira un très bon effet.

Officiers et soldats tous ont fait des prodiges—
Nous avons à regretter d'excellents officiers, et de bien braves soldats. Je vous enverrais bientôt d'autres détails, il me suffit de vous dire que l'armée ennemie forte de 5 à 6 mille hommes, dont fix cent de cavalerie a été totalement deroutée.

Salut et Respect.

NOTE II. (Translation.)

ARMY OF IRELAND.

Head Quarters at Castlebar, 11th Fructidor, 6th Year of the French Republic.

THE GENERAL COMMANDING IN CHIEF THE
ARMY OF IRELAND, TO THE EXECUTIVE
DIRECTORY.

I AM to report to you, Citizens Directors, what have been my operations in Ireland.

On the 4th Fructidor, as soon as I got within sight of Broadhaven, the army received the appellation of Army of Ireland. The wind being unfavourable, we could not make the land on that day.

On the 5th, the division of frigates, after beating against wind and tide during 12 hours, anchored in the Bay of Killala about three o'clock P. M. In consequence of our having hoisted the

English flag, many persons of note, and some English officers, came on board;—it is impossible to describe their astonishment at the sight of us.—At four, orders were given to disembark. The Adjutant General Sarazin landed first, at the head of the grenadiers. I ordered him to march to Killala, which he carried with the bayonet. I appointed him General of Brigade on the field of battle. The enemy was compleatly defeated. Of 200 men who defended the post, about 20 only escaped over the walls—the rest were taken or killed. Almost all the prisoners begged to be permitted to serve with us, and I readily consented to their request. The disembarkation was compleated towards 10 o'clock P. M.

On the 6th, General Sarrazin reconnoitred Ballina; a slight skirmish only took place, the enemy's cavalry having retired in full gallop the space of two leagues.

On the 7th, I marched with the army against Ballina. General Sarazin, at the head of the grenadiers and of one battalion of the line, dispersed every thing that opposed his passage. The Adjutant General Fontaine was directed to turn the enemy's flank. This attack succeeded, and he took several prisoners. I pursued the cavalry during

during a considerable time, with the brave 3d regiment of Chasseurs à Cheval.

On the 8th, the French army was joined by a corps of United Irishmen, who were armed and clothed on the spot. Towards three o'clock P. M. I moved forward to Rappa, and remained in that direction until two o'clock A. M.

On the 9th, the army advanced to Ballina, where it took post, but marched from it at three o'clock P. M.—After a march of 15 hours, I arrived on the 10th, at six o'clock in the morning, on the heights in the rear of Castlebar. Having examined the enemy's position, which was very strong, I ordered General Sarrazin to commence the attack. The enemy's skirmishers were rapidly driven in, and were pursued as far as the foot of the enemy's position. The grenadiers charged their line of battle, and were supported by the infantry of the line. The columns deployed under the fire of 12 pieces of cannon. General Sarrazin ordered the enemy's left to be attacked by a battalion of the line, which was obliged to give way, having received the fire of upwards of 2000 men. General Sarrazin flew to its support at the head of the grenadiers, and repulsed the enemy. The English, during half an hour, kept up a tremendous fire of musquetry, to which General Sarrazin for-

bid reposting. Our determined countenance disconcerted the English General, and as soon as the whole of the army had come up, I ordered a general attack to be made. General Sarrazin drove in the enemy's right, and took three pieces of cannon. The Chief of Battalion, Ardouin, obliged his left to retire to Castlebar.

The enemy having concentrated his force in Castlebar, and protected by his artillery kept up a terrible fire—but by a successful charge of the 3d regiment of Chasseurs à Cheval, made through the main street of Castlebar, he was forced to retire across the bridge. After several very destructive charges, both of cavalry and infantry, directed by General Sarrazin and Adjutant General Fontaine, the enemy was driven from all his positions, and pursued for the space of two leagues.

The enemy's loss amounts to 1800 men (of which 600 killed or wounded, and 1200 prisoners), 10 pieces of cannon, 5 stand of colours, 1200 firelocks, and almost all his baggage. The standard of his cavalry was taken in a charge by General Sarrazin, whom I named General of Division on the field of battle. I also, during the action, appointed the Adjutant General Fontaine, General of Brigade, and the Chiefs of Battalion Azemare, Ardouin, and Dufour, Chiefs of Brigade. I further

ther named Captain Durival a Commander of Squadron, and Captains Touffaint, Zilberman, Ranou, Huette, Babiou, and Rutz, Chiefs of Battalion. I beg, Citizens Directors, that you will be pleased to confirm these promotions, and that you will send the commissions as soon as possible, as it will be productive of very good effects.

Officers and soldiers have shewn prodigies of valour. We have to regret the loss of some excellent officers and very brave soldiers. I shall very shortly forward to you further details; at present I will only add, that the enemy's army, consisting of between 5 and 6000 men, of which 600 cavalry, has been completely dispersed.

Health and Respect.

(Signed), HUMBERT.

NOTE

NOTE III.

ARMÉE D'IRLANDE.

*Au Quartier Général à Castlebar le 11^{me}
Fruktidor, an 6^{me} de la République Française.*

LE GENERAL COMMANDANT EN CHEF L'ARMÉE
D'IRLANDE, AU MINISTRE DE LA MARINE.

JE vous envoie, Citoyen Ministre, copie de ma lettre au Directoire Exécutif. Elle vous prouvera que nous faisons tous nos efforts pour remplir les vues du gouvernement. J'ai fait plusieurs nominations d'après les actions et les talens militaires des individus qui en sont l'objets. Je vous prie d'en solliciter la confirmation auprès du Directoire Exécutif.

Les Irlandais Unis m'ont rejoint au nombre de six cents le 8^{me} Fruktidor, ils ont été armés et habillés sur le champ. Le 10 ils sont venus jusque sur les hauteurs en arrière de Castlebar. Ils ont pris la fuite au premier coup de canon, je m'y attendais

tendais et leur terreur panique n'a nullement dérangé mes opérations. La victoire de Castlebar a produite un bon effet. Je pense avoir sous trois jours un corps de deux à trois mille hommes du pays.

L'armée Anglaise que j'ai battue hier est commandée par le Général Haughton. Son Quartier Général est à Tuam. Il se propose de réunir vingt cinq mille hommes pour prendre sa revanche. De mon côté je mets tout en usage pour le bien recevoir, et même aller à son devant en raison des circonstances.

Nous sommes en possession de Killala, Ballina, Foxford, Castlebar, Newport, Ballinarobe, et Westport. Dès que le corps d'Irlandais Unis que je veux réunir à moi sera armé et habillé je marcherai à l'ennemi. Je me dirigerai vers Roscommon, où l'insurrection a de plus chauds partisans. Dès que l'armée Anglaise aura évacué la province de Connaught je passerai le Schanon et tacherai de faire joindre l'armée par les insurgés du nord. Cette réunion étant effectuée j'aurai assez de force pour marcher sur Dublin et livrer une bataille décisive.

Les Irlandais ont tatoné jusqu'à ce jour. Le Comté de Mayo n'a jamais été en insurrection, aussi

aussi nos progrès ne sont pas aussi rapides qu'ils l'eussent été par tout ailleurs. Comme il est possible que la poignée de Français succombe sous le nombre et que nos nouveaux soldats soyent effrayés par le bruit du canon comme à Castlebar je vous demande un bataillon et la 3^{me} $\frac{1}{2}$ brigade d'infanterie légère, un de la 1^{ome} $\frac{1}{2}$ brigade de ligne, cent cinquante hommes du 3^{me} regiment de chasseurs à cheval et cent canoniers d'artillerie légère, quinze mille fusils, et un million de cartouches. Avec le renfort que j'évalue à deux mille hommes, je crois pouvoir assurer qu'un mois après son arrivée l'Irlande sera libre. La Flotte pourra mouiller dans la Bay de Tarboy par 53° 55' de latitude du sud de l'Isle Mulete, le débarquement s'effectuera sans obstacle.

Je ne puis trop faire l'éloge du corps de troupes à mes ordres. Je recommande mes braves camarades à la reconnaissance nationale et à votre sollicitude paternelle.

Salut et Respect.

(Signé)

HUMBERT.

NOTE

NOTE III. (Translation).

ARMY OF IRELAND.

*Head Quarters, Castlebar, 11th Fructidor,
6th year of the French Republic.*

THE GENERAL COMMANDING IN CHIEF THE
ARMY OF IRELAND, TO THE MINISTER OF
MARINE.

I TRANSMIT to you, Citizen Minister, the copy
of my letter to the Executive Directory. You will
perceive that no exertions are wanting on our part
to fulfill the intentions of Government.

I have made several appointments, according to
the actions and to the military talents displayed by
those whom they regard, and I solicit your support
in obtaining from the Executive Directory, a con-
firmation of them.

About 600 United Irish joined me on the 8th
Fructidor, and were immediately armed and
clothed.

clothed. On the 10th they came forward to the heights in the rear of Castlebar. The first cannon shot that was fired drove them off. I expected as much, and their panic in no way deranged my operations.

The victory of Castlebar has produced excellent effects; and I hope within three days to have with me a corps of 2 or 3000 of the inhabitants.

The English army, which I yesterday defeated, is commanded by General Houghton, whose headquarters are now at Tuam. He intends to assemble 25,000 men to attack me; and on my side I am doing my utmost to be well prepared for his reception, and even to go and meet him should circumstances justify such proceeding. We occupy Killala, Ballina, Foxford, Castlebar, Newport, Ballinrobe, and Westport. As soon as the corps of United Irishmen, which I wish to assemble, shall be clothed, I shall march against the enemy in the direction of Roscommon, where the partizans of insurrection are most zealous. As soon as the English army shall have evacuated the Province of Connaught, I shall pass the Shannon, and shall endeavour to make a junction with the insurgents in the North. When this shall have been effected, I shall be in a sufficient force to march to Dublin, and to fight a decisive action.

The

The Irish have until this day hung back. The county of Mayo has never been disturbed, and this must account for the slowness of our progress, which in other parts would have been very different.

As this handful of French may possibly be obliged to yield to numbers, and that the noise of cannon may again produce on our new soldiers the effect it had at Castlebar, I desire you will send me one battalion of the 3d half brigade of light infantry, one of the 10th half brigade of the line, 150 of the 3d regiment of chasseurs a cheval, and 100 men of the light artillery; 15,000 firelocks, and a million of cartridges.

I will venture to assert, that in the course of a month after the arrival of this reinforcement, which I estimate at 2000 men, Ireland will be free.

The fleet may anchor in the Bay of *Tarboy*, by 53, 55 latitude South of *L'Isle Muttette*, and the disembarkation will be effected without difficulty.

I cannot sufficiently praise the conduct of the troops under my command. I must recommend my brave comrades to the gratitude of the nation, and to your paternal care.

(Signed) HUMBERT.

NOTE

NOTE IV.

ARMÉE D'IRLANDE.

LIBERTE, EGALITE.

*Au Quartier Général à Castlebar, le 14^{me}
Fructidor, an 6^{me} de la République Française,
une et indivisible.*

LE Général Humbert, Commandant en Chef
l'Armée d'Irlande, desirant organiser dans le plus
bref délai, un pouvoir administratif pour la pro-
vince de Connaught, arrête ce qui suit :

1^{re}. Le Gouvernement de la province de Con-
naught résidera à Castlebar jusqu'à nouvel ordre.

2de. Ce Gouvernement sera composé de douze membres, qui seront nommés par le Général en Chef de l'armée Française.

3me. Le Citoyen Jean Moore est nommé Préfident du Gouvernement de la province de Connaught. Il est spécialement chargé de la nomination et réunion des membres du gouvernement.

4me. Le Gouvernement s'occupera sur le champ d'organiser la milice de la Province de Connaught, et d'assurer les subsistances des armées Française et Irlandaise.

5me. Il sera organisé huit regiments d'infanterie chacun de douze cents hommes, et quatre regiments de cavalerie chacun de six cents hommes.

6me. Le Gouvernement declarera rebelle et traître à la patrie, tout ceux qui ayant reçu des habits ou des armes ne rejoindraient pas l'armée dans les vingt quatres heures.

7me. Tout individu depuis seize ans jusqu'à quarante inclusivement est requis au nom de la République Irlandaise de se rendre de suite au camp Français pour marcher en masse contre l'ennemi commun le tiran de l'Irlande—l'Anglais; dont le de-

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struction peut seule assurer l'indépendance et le
bonheur de l'antique Hibernie.

(Signé)

Le General Commandant en Chef,

HUMBERT.

NOTE

NOTE IV. (Translation).

ARMY OF IRELAND.

LIBERTY, EQUALITY.

Head Quarters at Castlebar, 14th Fructidor, 6th year of the French Republic, one and indivisible.

GENERAL Humbert, Commanding in Chief the Army of Ireland, being desirous of organizing, with as little delay as possible, an administrative power for the province of Connaught, directs as follows :

1st. The seat of the government shall be at Castlebar, until further orders.

2d. The Government shall be formed of 12 members, who shall be named by the Commander in Chief of the French army.

3d. Citizen John Moore is appointed President of the Government of the province of Connaught, and is specially entrusted with the nomination and the uniting of its members.

4th. The Government shall immediately attend to the organization of the militia of the province of Connaught, and to the supplies for the French and Irish armies.

5th. Eight regiments of infantry of 1200 men each, and four regiments of cavalry of 600 men each, shall be organized.

6th. The government shall declare all those to be rebels and traitors, who having received arms, or cloathing, shall not within 24 hours rejoin the army.

7th. Every individual, from the age of 16 to 40 inclusive, is required in the name of the Irish Republic, instantly to repair to the French camp, in order to march in mass against the common enemy, the tyrant of Ireland—the English; whose destruction

struction alone can insure the independence and the welfare of antient Hibernia.

(Signed)

The General Commanding in Chief,

HUMBERT.

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NOTE

NOTE V.

GENERAL ORDERS.

*Head Quarters, near St. John's Town,
9th September, 1798.*

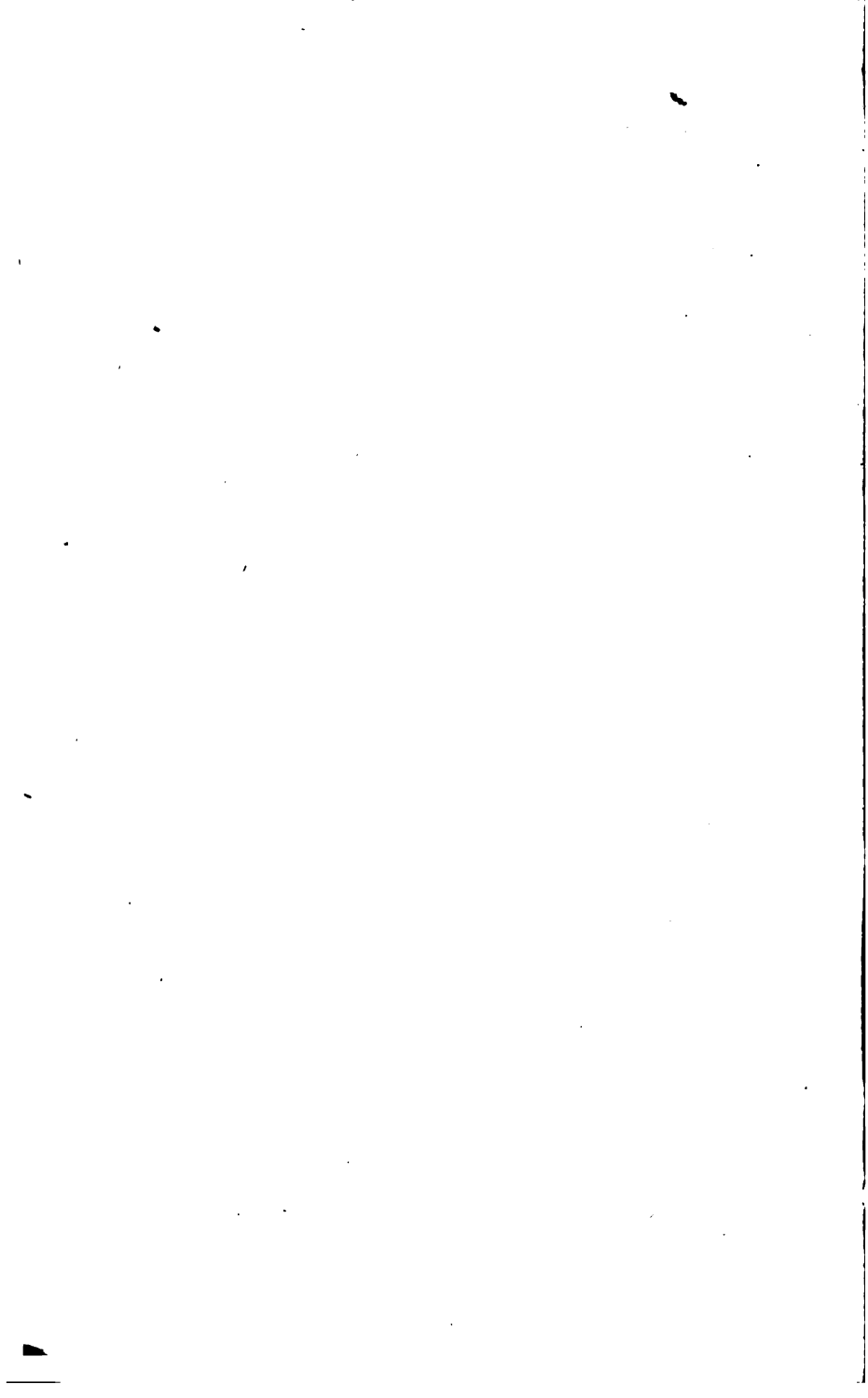
LORD Cornwallis cannot too much applaud the zeal and spirit which has been manifested by the army, from the commencement of the operations against the invading enemy, until the surrender of the French forces.

The perseverance with which the soldiers supported the extraordinary marches which were necessary to stop the progress of the very active enemy, does them the greatest credit; and Lord Cornwallis heartily congratulates them on the happy issue of their meritorious exertions.

The corps of yeomanry, in the whole country through which the army has passed, have rendered the

the greatest services, and are peculiarly entitled to the acknowledgments of the Lord Lieutenant, for their not having tarnished that courage and loyalty which they displayed in the cause of their King and country, by any acts of wanton cruelty towards their deluded fellow subjects.

FINIS.



SPL
2 maps
1 Table

